

RESOLUTION NO. 012-13

WHEREAS, The Woodlands Township (the "Township") has been heretofore duly created and organized and is operating pursuant to the authority of Chapter 289, Acts of the 73rd Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 1993, as amended (the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, the Township is charged by the Act with the responsibility for calling and conducting an annual election for members of the Board of Directors of the Township pursuant to the Act and the applicable provisions of the Texas Election Code; and

WHEREAS, from time to time, the Township is requested by candidates, campaign officials, supporters, voters or other interested persons to permit, restrict or prevent certain election activities by candidates, campaign officials or supporters, including requests which are considered inappropriate or beyond the authority of the Township to accomplish; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Township deems it appropriate to establish and memorialize certain policies, procedures and priorities in connection with such elections; Now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP, THAT:

Section 1: It shall be the policy of the Township in connection with its duty to call, hold and conduct such annual elections for directors that the Township's foremost responsibility and duty is to call, hold and conduct a fair, free and impartial election and to avoid, where possible, any appearance of bias, partiality or favoritism for or against any candidate, party, slate or cause.

Section 2: It shall be the sole responsibility of the candidates and their respective supporters, campaign treasurers and related officials to secure such legal, ethical, advertising, promotional and other advice and assistance as they may need or desire in connection with such elections, and the Township's duties and responsibilities shall be limited to providing and promulgating on a timely basis such forms, orders, notices and related documents and materials as are essential to the calling, holding and conducting of a fair and impartial election, without regard to the individual responsibilities of the candidates for compliance with ethical, campaign reporting and disclosure, fair campaign practices, advertising and other election laws, standards and guidelines.

Section 3: With respect to certain matters which are, or are commonly perceived to be, within the control and authority of the Township, the Township policies shall be as follows:

A. Use of Township Logo

In keeping with the Township's responsibility to conduct a fair and impartial election and to preserve the Township's control over the use of its logo, candidates or campaigns shall not be permitted to use the Township's logo on any campaign materials unless incidental to, and not in a position of prominence in, an image described in paragraph F. of this Section 3.

B. Use of Township E-mail

An incumbent director who is a candidate in an election may not use a Township provided e-mail account for the purpose of advertising or promoting the candidate's campaign or for endorsing, supporting, raising funds for or promoting the campaign of another candidate. Nothing herein shall be deemed or construed to restrict a director from using a Township provided e-mail account to correspond with constituents on issues related to Township business other than election campaigns.

C. Distribution of Candidate Information or Candidate Forums

In keeping with the Township's responsibility to conduct fair and impartial elections, the Township cannot and does not, directly or indirectly, endorse, promote or support, through in-kind services or otherwise, any specific candidate forum, candidate information exchange or similar activities through the use of Township resources, including The Woodlands Community Magazine, the Township website, WoodlandsAlert or similar means. The Township will timely take all necessary steps to provide notice of candidate names, ballot positions, voting locations and voting times.

D. Political Advertising in The Woodlands Community Magazine

No political advertising shall be permitted in The Woodlands Community Magazine, nor shall business advertisements, names or photos which are similar in style or format to the campaign materials of a candidate be placed in The Woodlands Community Magazine during the period from the first date of the filing of candidate applications to the conclusion of the election.

E. Political Activity by Employees

An employee of the Township may not engage in political activity related to a campaign for an elected public office or proposition to be voted on by the public while in Township uniform, on duty or while representing or acting on behalf of the Township, or under circumstances suggesting that such employee is representing or acting on behalf of the Township. Nothing herein shall be deemed or construed to restrict the right of organized labor groups, including firefighters, to form a political action committee to engage in political activity off duty.

F. Images of Township Facilities

Photographs, drawings or other images of public facilities, including administrative facilities, fire stations, parks or other Township facilities, may be used by candidates, supporters or campaigns so long as the taking or making of such images does not interrupt or interfere with access to or the operations of such public facilities.

G. Election Signs on Private Properties

The use of election signs on private properties shall be governed by the Covenants and Standards and all applicable regulations thereunder.

Section 4: The Township will not undertake to interpret, enforce or provide legal, ethical or other advice in connection with election activities which are beyond the scope and authority of the Township to regulate, including, without limitation, electioneering during primary or general elections near polling places where such elections are administered under the authority of Montgomery County and/or Harris County; endorsements of candidates by current or former members of the Board of Directors of the Township, whether with or without use of any officer's title; the use of automated telephone calling; false or misleading advertising or signage; or similar election activities which are beyond the authority of the Township to regulate or control; provided, however, that endorsements of candidates by members of the Board of Directors of the Township, whether with or without the use of officers' titles, should not be made under circumstances suggesting such endorsement is being made by or on behalf of the Township or its Board of Directors.

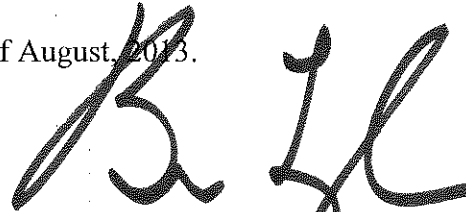
Section 5: Unless inconsistent or in conflict with the Act, the Board of Directors of the Township hereby adopts and approves for usage in all such elections for members of the Board of Directors of the Township held on a general election day the timetable and calendar of events promulgated and published by the Texas Secretary of State for such election.

Section 6: In the absence of a specific initial filing date for candidates in the Act or other applicable law, the Board of Directors of the Township hereby adopts as the first date for filing of a candidate's application in an election for members of the Board of Directors of the Township the ninety-first (91st) day before the date of the election, but the Township offices will not be open for receipt of such filing if such date falls on a Saturday or a Sunday and may not be open for receipt of such filing on a State holiday. The President/General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to provide notice of such first filing date, as well as the last filing date, in the manner required by law at least thirty (30) days in advance of such first filing date.

Section 7: The provisions of this Resolution shall be effective as of its date of approval by the Board of Directors and shall remain in effect until modified by action of the Board of Directors, and any prior resolutions, including Resolution No. 020-10, which pertain to the

subject matter herein or which are in conflict herewith, are hereby revoked as of the effective date hereof.

PASSED and APPROVED this 22nd day of August, 2013.



Chairman, Board of Directors

ATTEST:



Secretary, Board of Directors

(SEAL)

